West Valley Grace Fellowship

14465 R. H. Johnson Blvd., Sun City West, AZ 85375

Sunday, August 4, 2024, 10:30 AM

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Announcements: Hymn 526 **My Hope is Built on Nothing Less**…Offering…Hymn 367 **Christ The Lord is Risen Today**

It’s Sunday August 4, 2024 and I am Jim Humphrey of West Valley Grace Fellowship. Open in Prayer.

Scripture reading:

Php 4:1 Therefore, my brethren dearly beloved and longed for, my joy and crown, so stand fast in the Lord, my dearly beloved. Php 4:2 I beseech Euodias, and beseech Syntyche, that they be of the same mind in the Lord.

Php 4:3 And I intreat thee also, true yokefellow, help those women which laboured with me in the gospel, with Clement also, and with other my fellow labourers, whose names are in the book of life.

Php 4:4 Rejoice in the Lord alway: and again I say, Rejoice.

Php 4:5 Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand.

Php 4:6 Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

Php 4:7 And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Php 4:8 Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.

Php 4:9 Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you.

**Verse 1** – “Therefore, my brethren dearly beloved and longed for, my joy and crown, so stand fast in the Lord, my dearly beloved.”

“Therefore” points back to Paul’s previous statement:

 Php 3:20 For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ:

Php 3:21 Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto His glorious body, according to the working whereby He is able even to subdue all things unto Himself.

THEREFORE, i.e., because every minute of every day we believers look for our Lord Jesus Christ to take us up in the air and change these vile bodies into a Glorious Body just like His, we are to stand fast in Him.

Paul informs how to stand fast/what it means to stand fast in the following verses.

**Verse 2** – Euodias and Syntyche (women) had apparently been arguing about something and had a falling out. Paul beseeches/ exhorts/ desires/ entreats (G3870) them to be of the same mind, that is, for both of them to be mentally disposed in the same direction, and to set their affection on, savor the same things, IN THE Lord**.**

**Verse 3** – Paul asks someone referred to as a true yokefellow (G4805) to help the women and other believers there who worked with him. The Greek word translated yokefellow is only found here in the NT and it is unknown to whom this refers.

**Verse 4** – Paul repeats an exhortation twice to all believers; that is to “REJOICE in the Lord.” The Greek word (G5463) translated “Rejoice” means to “be full of cheer/ calmly happy or well off/ be glad, etc.

**Verse 5** - Paul tells believers to let our moderation be known to all. The Greek for “moderation” (G1933) means “appropriate/ gentle/ mild/ patient.” And the last part of the verse gives the reason why: “The Lord *is* at hand.” “At hand” is from the Greek (G1451) meaning “near, (literally or figuratively, of space or time)/ ready.” Either way you take it, our Lord is always near to believers in Spirit, and His actual physical presence is imminent, just like it has been for the last 2000 years.

**Verse 6**  - “Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.” “Careful” is from a Greek word (G3309) that means “to be anxious about, to take thought,” so believers should not live in a state of anxiety about anything. It simply does no good to have anxiety about health, finances, our children, politics, etc., etc. Anxiety will not change anything. The answer given here is “Prayer,” it is the act of praying to God, supplications are what we lay before Him in our prayers, and they are to be with thanksgiving, that is we are to be grateful to Him.

**Verse 7** – “And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.” Quoting from Bullinger’s book “Figures of Speech” page 994: “The Peace of God” is God’s Peace; the Peace which reigns in His presence, where the end is known from the beginning, producing a peace which nothing therefore can disturb. It is the unknown future which disturbs our peace; but if our requests are made known to God, we need not be full of care about anything: and something of God’s Peace will keep and guards our hearts and minds.”

**Verse 8** - Paul tells believers on what we should “think on,” (G3049), which in Greek means “take an inventory of, estimate, conclude, count.”

The two words “whatsoever things” is repeated six times, six in Scripture is the number of man.

“Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are **true**, whatsoever things are **honest**, whatsoever things are **just**, whatsoever things are **pure**, whatsoever things are **lovely**, whatsoever things are **of good report**; if there be any **virtue**, and if there be any **praise**, think on these things.”

We are to **think on these things**.

**Think on** is from the Greek (G3049) “take an inventory, estimate, conclude, count, reason, reckon, etc.”

**These things** Greek (G5023) “follow + hereafter, etc.”

Then, there are 8 things listed that we are to think on.

Eight in Scripture is the number for new beginnings: The Lord finished His creation and rest on the 7th day and so the 8th day was a new beginning of time; Noah, his sons and their wives being 8 were the new beginning of the human race; and many more.

1. True
2. Honest
3. Just
4. Pure
5. Lovely
6. Of good report
7. Virtue
8. Praise
9. **True** Greek (G227) “not concealing anything.”
10. **Honest** Greek (G4586) “honorable.”
11. **Just** Greek (G1342) “equitable (in character or act), innocent, holy, right, etc.”
12. **Pure** Greek (G53) “clean, modest, perfect, etc.”
13. **Lovely** Greek (G4375) “friendly towards, that is, acceptable.”
14. **Of good report** (G2163) “well-spoken of, reputable,”
15. **Virtue** (G702) “manliness (valor), excellence.”
16. **Praise** (G1868) “laudation; concretely a commendable thing.”

**Verse 9** – “Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you.”

**Hymn 774 When the Roll is Called up Yonder**